

NEW APPLICATION

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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COMMISSIONERS

ROBERT "BOB" BURNS - Chairman ANDY TOBIN **BOYD DUNN** SANDRA D. KENNEDY JUSTIN OLSON

In the matter of: DOCKET NO. S-21072A-19-0061

WAGNER CAPITAL MANAGEMENT. LLC, an Arizona limited liability company, and

ZACHARY S. WAGNER, CRD #6694074, and Jessica N. Wagner, husband and wife,

Respondents.

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED ORDER TO CEASE AND DESIST, ORDER FOR RESTITUTION, ORDER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES, ORDER OF REVOCATION, ORDER OF DENIAL, AND ORDER FOR OTHER AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

NOTICE: EACH RESPONDENT HAS 10 DAYS TO REQUEST A HEARING

EACH RESPONDENT HAS 30 DAYS TO FILE AN ANSWER

The Securities Division ("Division") of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") alleges that respondents Wagner Capital Management, LLC and Zachary S. Wagner have engaged in acts, practices, and transactions that constitute violations of the Securities Act of Arizona, A.R.S. § 44-1801 et seq. ("Securities Act") and the Arizona Investment Management Act, A.R.S. § 44-3101 et seq. ("IM Act").

The Division also alleges that Zachary Wagner is a person controlling Wagner Capital Management, LLC within the meaning of A.R.S. § 44-1999(B), so that he is jointly and severally liable under A.R.S. § 44-1999(B) to the same extent as the entity for its violations of the antifraud provisions of the Securities Act.

I.

JURISDICTION

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution, the Securities Act, and the IM Act.

11. 1 RESPONDENTS 2 2. 3 Zachary S. Wagner, CRD #6694074 ("Wagner"), has resided in Arizona during the 4 timeframe relevant to this Notice, i.e. 2016 – March 2019. 5 3. Wagner Capital Management, LLC ("WCM") is a member-managed, Arizona limited liability company formed on June 29, 2017. Wagner is WCM's only employee and performed all of 6 7 WCM's consulting, advisory, and investment services. 8 4. Wagner and WCM may be referred to collectively as "Respondents." 5. 9 Jessica Wagner ("Respondent Spouse") was at all relevant times the spouse of Wagner. 10 Respondent Spouse is joined in this action under A.R.S. § 44-2031(C) and A.R.S. § 44-3291(C) solely 11 for purposes of determining the liability of the marital community. 12 6. At all times relevant, Wagner was acting for his own benefit and for the benefit or in furtherance of his and Respondent Spouse's marital community. 13 14 III. REGISTRATION HISTORY AND CURRENT APPLICATION 15 16 7. Wagner has been registered with the Commission as a securities salesman since January 17 24, 2018. During that time, he was associated with Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc. He was employed at Merrill Lynch from October 26, 2017 - September 7, 2018. 18 8. 19 Wagner did not disclose to Merrill Lynch that he and WCM were buying and selling securities for the investor client described in this Notice. Merrill Lynch terminated Wagner on 20 21 September 7, 2018, for this failure to disclose. 9. 22 Upon his termination from Merrill Lynch, Wagner was not associated with a registered dealer and his salesman registration with the Commission was automatically suspended pursuant to 23 A.R.S. § 44-1949. 24 25 26

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10. Since February 6, 2019, Wagner has been employed at OneAmerica Securities, Inc., CRD #4173. On March 13, 2019, Wagner applied with the Commission for registration as a salesman and licensing as an investment adviser representative associated with OneAmercia Securities.

- 11. In his Form U4, Question 14G, Wagner represents that he had not been notified in writing of any state securities regulator investigation.
- 12. In fact, the Division served Wagner and WCM with subpoenas, which he received on January 29, 2019. The subpoenas state that they are being served as part of investigation and involve possible violations of the Securities Act and IM Act. Additionally, pursuant to these subpoenas, Wagner provided documents and attended an examination under oath on March 7, 2019, where it was disclosed to him that the Division could seek administrative action for his violations of the Securities Act and IM Act.

IV.

FACTS

- In 2016, Wagner worked at Wells Fargo. His duties included helping customers apply for small business loans.
- 14. While employed at Wells Fargo, Wagner met M.O., an Arizona resident, and helped M.O. apply for a small business loan.
- 15. In August 2017, M.O. was planning to open a daycare facility for special needs children. At this time Wagner no longer worked for Wells Fargo and had opened WCM to provide consulting and financial services.
- 16. In an August 31, 2017 email with the subject line "Overview of Wagner Capital Management" Wagner informed M.O. and her husband that his "goal is to work directly with individuals who are business owners assisting in everything financial." He asked M.O. to let him know when they could meet to "go over a couple ideas I have for you both and your business that may help you stretch some of that hard fought money you have right now." He also asked M.O.

"[h]ow much in total funds do you have collected or access to currently?" and to estimate expenses for the daycare facility.

- 17. In her response to the above-described email, M.O. provided Wagner with a summary of her business funds. This summary showed that M.O. had available funds totaling \$83,398.52 and that the source of these funds was various personal loans. M.O. estimated that the daycare facility would cost \$57,151 per month to operate.
- 18. In another August 31, 2017 email, Wagner told M.O. that he'd take the available cash, wrap it up into one cash management account with WCM, and generate \$2000 \$3000 each month in margin-approved accounts with Fidelity Investments and TD Ameritrade while she waits to sign a lease for the daycare facility building. When she signs a lease in the next few months, he would wire \$50,000 from the margin accounts to M.O.'s bank accounts.
- 19. On September 14, 2017, Wagner sent M.O. an email with an attached document titled "Business and Investment Proposal prepared for [M.O.'s entity], by Zachary Wagner, Wagner Capital Management, LLC." The proposal is signed by Wagner and dated September 11, 2017.
- 20. The second page to this proposal is a cover letter addressed to M.O. and her entity. The letter states that "By hiring [WCM] to take care of all your financial needs, you can ensure a step in the right direction. By partnering with us as your wealth manager...you have the services of highly qualified, experienced professionals."
- 21. The next page is titled "The Proposal." It states that "investment management" is a service Wagner/WCM perform. It further states that while "most advisers" focus on one thing, WCM looks at long-term growth and "specialize[s] in use of derivatives to maximize returns." WCM refers to its customers as "clients" and touts its superior communication with its clients. WCM claims to have "proven expertise in areas like investment management[.]" In the section titled "About Us" WCM says that one of its functions is "asset management" where they utilize "a variety of strategies including Long/Short Equities" and "arbitrage." Further, they have a team of financial experts in business for over 35 combined years.

- 22. The proposal also has pricing for Wagner/WCM's services. WCM charges 1.75% for assets under management and 17.5% on gains.
- 23. A September 16, 2017 email from Wagner says that his main focus for M.O. is "using the profit for the funds to pay any current loans you have and grow the overall account....I should be able to generate \$2k-\$3k a month in additional income from the money we will invest and allocate this Tuesday or Wednesday."
- 24. In conversations and email, Wagner represented to M.O. that he would make distributions to M.O. or directly pay expenses related to starting M.O.'s daycare business, including paying construction expenses, taxes, and interest on loans and credit cards.
- 25. M.O. did not receive subscription documents or any other disclosure or investment documents from Wagner or WCM.
- 26. Based on the representations in Wagner's emails, the attached proposal, and in meeting with Wagner, M.O. delivered two cashier's checks—one for \$48,058, the other for \$23,870, a total of \$71,928—to WCM on September 19, 2017.
- 27. On or about September 19, 2017, Wagner deposited M.O.'s \$48,058 check into WCM's Fidelity trading account.
- 28. On or about September 19, 2017, Wagner deposited M.O.'s \$23,870 cashier's check into WCM's account at Chase. At the time of the deposit, WCM's Chase account had a balance of \$335.53.
- 29. Over the course of the next two weeks, Wagner transferred \$14,000 from the Chase account to WCM's Fidelity trading account. He spent most of the remaining funds in the account on purchases consistent with personal use. The Chase account's ending balance on October 5, 2018 was \$265.87.
- 30. Beginning in September 2017, and continuing through December 18, 2017, Wagner bought and sold securities in the form of stocks, stock options, and index funds in the WCM Fidelity account. This trading activity resulted in \$11,322.81 of losses from trading and \$2,029.13 of fees.

- 31. Between October 6, 2017 and January 2, 2018, Wagner transferred a net of \$48,628.12 from the WCM Fidelity account to WCM's Chase account. During this time, Wagner's deposits into the Chase account from other sources totaled only \$3,884. Wagner spent the money in this Chase account in the following ways:
 - \$24,250 net transfers to his personal Merrill Lynch account (discussed more in the next paragraph)
 - b. \$15,948 total payments to and on behalf of M.O.
 - c. \$8,803 from four withdrawals
 - d. \$4,620 to Wagner's apartment complex
 - e. \$3,000 check written to himself
 - f. \$2,527 to a contractor that performed work at his parents' wine bar
 - g. \$2,225 for payments on three personal credit card accounts
 - h. \$900 in cash from ATMs
 - i. Various other payments consistent with personal use
- 32. Between November 27, 2017 and January 31, 2018, Wagner transferred a net total of \$24,250 from the WCM Chase account to his personal Merrill Lynch account. His first transfer from WCM was for \$20,500 and occurred on November 27, 2017, when the Merrill Lynch account's balance was \$0. That same day, Wagner wrote a \$20,000 check from this Merrill Lynch account for a loan to a local hay-hauling company. At the time of the loan to the hay-hauling company, that company was in jeopardy because of a lack of inventory and capital. On December 8, 2017, Wagner received an \$8,000 repayment on this loan, which he deposited in WCM's Chase account. (In February and March 2018, the hay-hauling company made \$2,500 and \$8,000 payments to Wagner, which he deposited in his personal account). By January 31, 2018, the balance in this Merrill Lynch account was \$0.
- 33. Wagner transferred a net of \$4,337 from the Merrill Lynch account described in the preceding paragraph to a second, personal Merrill Lynch account that had a \$0 balance prior to the

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transfers. From this second, personal Merrill Lynch account, Wagner withdrew \$1,200 in cash, made credit card purchases totaling \$704, and lost the remaining funds trading call options. By the end of February 2018, the balance of this second Merrill Lynch account was \$0.

- 34. After Wagner had lost nearly all of M.O.'s money, he still represented to her that his business was healthy and that her funds had significant value.
- On several occasions, M.O. asked Wagner to provide an update on the value of her 35. funds.
- 36. On December 29, 2017, Wagner provided M.O. with a statement that purported to show the value of M.O.'s funds that Respondents managed. This was the only account statement M.O. received from Respondents. In this December 29, 2017 statement, M.O.'s funds are titled "Shares in WC Diversified Funds, Proportionate Shares" and it shows her owning 5.81252 shares with a "Unit price" of \$10,000 for total price of \$58,125.21.
- 37. The December 29, 2017 statement shows that WCM has \$390,000 total assets under management. It also lists WCM's top five investment holdings and shows these holdings as stocks and mutual funds. However, on December 29, 2017, WCM's Fidelity trading account had a value of \$0.22, WCM's bank account had a balance of \$150.90, and Wagner's personal trading account held only \$1,120 of call options in a single company—a company that was not listed in the "top five" investment holdings in the statement (by the end of the day on December 29, 2017, Wagner had sold those options for a net loss of \$165.38). Additionally, M.O. was Wagner and WCM's sole investor; Respondents had no other investor funds under management.
- 38. As late as January 7, 2018, Wagner represented to M.O. via email that he still held various investments with her funds, that these investments would grow, and that he would soon start moving cash out of the investments for future use.
- 39. On January 26, 2018, Wagner told M.O. that he would make payments to a third party pursuant to a request from M.O. He failed to do so. As discussed above, by this time Wagner had lost or spent all of M.O.'s money.

V.

VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 44-1842

(Transactions by Unregistered Dealers or Salesmen)

- 40. Respondents offered or sold securities in the form of stocks, stock options, exchangetraded funds, and investment contracts within or from Arizona while not registered as dealers or salesmen pursuant to Article 9 of the Securities Act.
 - 41. This conduct violates A.R.S. § 44-1842.

VI.

VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 44-1991

(Fraud in Connection with the Offer or Sale of Securities)

- 42. In connection with the offer or sale of securities within or from Arizona, Respondents directly or indirectly: (i) employed a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud; (ii) made untrue statements of material fact or omitted to state material facts that were necessary in order to make the statements made not misleading in light of the circumstances under which they were made; or (iii) engaged in transactions, practices, or courses of business that operated or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon offerees and investors. Respondents' conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. Representing to M.O. that Respondents would invest her funds in securities to generate a monthly income of \$2,000 \$3,000 then spending the majority of those funds on items consistent with personal use and losing the remaining funds on trading securities;
 - b. Representing to M.O. that Respondents had purchased securities with her funds and providing a written statement showing the names of those securities and the value of her investment when in fact most of her funds had been lost or used on expenses consistent with personal use.
 - c. Representing to M.O. that as of December 29, 2017, WCM had \$390,000 of total assets under management and that M.O.'s investment was worth \$58,125.21 when in fact Respondents did not manage assets of any clients other M.O., and on December 29, 2017,

WCM's Fidelity trading account had a value of \$0.22, WCM's bank account had a balance of \$150.90, and Wagner's personal trading account held only \$1,120 of call options in a single company (by the end of the day on December 29, 2017, Wagner had sold those options for a net loss of \$165.38).

43. This conduct violates A.R.S. § 44-1991.

VII.

CONTROL PERSON LIABILITY PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 44-1999

44. From 2016 through 2018, Wagner directly or indirectly controlled WCM within the meaning of A.R.S. § 44-1999. Therefore, he is jointly and severally liable to the same extent as WCM for its violations of A.R.S. § 44-1991.

VIII.

REMEDIES PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 44-1962

(Denial, Revocation, or Suspension of Registration of Salesman; Restitution, Penalties, or other Affirmative Action)

45. Respondents' conduct is grounds to revoke Wagner's registration and deny his application as a securities salesman with the Commission pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1962(A)(1). Specifically, Wagner has filed an inaccurate and misleading application for registration. In Wagner's registration application filed on March 13, 2019, Wagner represents that he had not been notified in writing of any state securities regulator investigation. In fact, the Division served Wagner and WCM with subpoenas, which he received on January 29, 2019. The subpoenas state that they are being served as part of investigation and involve possible violations of the Securities Act and IM Act. Additionally, pursuant to these subpoenas, Wagner provided documents and attended an examination under oath on March 7, 2019, where it was disclosed to him that the Division could seek administrative action for his violations of the Securities Act and IM Act.

- 46. Respondents' conduct is grounds to revoke Wagner's registration and deny his application as a securities salesman with the Commission pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1962(A)(2) because Respondents have violated A.R.S. §§ 44-1842 and 44-1991.
- 47. Respondents' conduct is grounds to revoke Wagner's registrations and deny his application as a securities salesman with the Commission pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1962(A)(10) because Respondents have engaged in dishonest and unethical conduct under Commission Rules R14-4-130(A)(14) (employing, in connection with the purchase or sale of a security, a manipulative or deceptive device or contrivance) and R14-4-130(A)(16) (making unauthorized use of securities or funds of a customer or converting customer securities or funds for personal benefit). Specifically, Respondents:
 - a. Represented to M.O. that Respondents would invest her funds in securities to generate a monthly income of \$2000 \$3,000 then spending the majority of those funds on items consistent with personal use and losing the remaining funds on trading securities;
 - b. Represented to M.O. that Respondents had purchased securities with her funds and providing a written statement showing the names of those securities and the value of her investment when in fact most of her funds had been lost or used on expenses consistent with personal use.
 - c. Represented to M.O. that as of December 29, 2017, WCM had \$390,000 of total assets under management and that M.O.'s investment was worth \$58,125.21 when in fact Respondents did not manage assets of any clients other than M.O., and on December 29, 2017, WCM's Fidelity trading account had a value of \$0.22, WCM's bank account had a balance of \$150.90, and Wagner's personal trading account held only \$1,120 of call options in a single company (by the end of the day on December 29, 2017, Wagner had sold those options for a net loss of \$165.38).
- 48. Respondents' conduct is grounds to assess restitution, penalties, and take appropriate affirmative action pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1962.

Ţ	IX.
2	VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 44-3151
3	(Transactions by Unlicensed Investment Advisers
4	or Investment Adviser Representatives)
5	49. Respondents transacted business in Arizona as investment advisers or investment adviser
6	representatives while not licensed or in compliance with Article 4 of the IM Act.
7	50. This conduct violates A.R.S. § 44-3151.
8	X.
9	REMEDIES PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 44-3201
10	(Denial, Revocation, or Suspension of Investment Adviser or Investment Adviser Representative
11	License; Restitution, Penalties, or other Affirmative Action)
12	51. Respondents' conduct is grounds to deny Wagner's application as an investment adviser
13	representative with the Commission pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-3201. Specifically, denial of Wagner's
14	application would be in the public interest and appropriate pursuant to the following provisions:
15	a. A.R.S. § 44-3201(A)(1): Wagner's application for licensure, filed on March 13,
16	2019, is inaccurate. In his response to Form U4, Question 14G, Wagner represents that he had
17	not been notified in writing of any state securities regulator investigation. In fact, the Division
18	served Wagner and WCM with subpoenas, which he received on January 29, 2019. The
19	subpoenas state that they are being served as part of investigation and involve possible violations
20	of the Securities Act and IM Act. Additionally, pursuant to these subpoenas, Wagner provided
21	documents and attended an examination under oath on March 7, 2019, where it was disclosed to
22	him that the Division could seek administrative action for his violations of the Securities Act and
23	IM Act.
24	b. A.R.S. § 44-3201(A)(3): Wagner has violated the IM Act by providing
25	investment advisory services for compensation while not licensed to do so and committed fraud
26	in connection with the provision of such services;
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- c. A.R.S. § 44-3201(A)(13): Wagner has engaged in dishonest or unethical practices in the following ways:
 - i) Representing to M.O. that Respondents would invest her funds in securities to generate a monthly income of \$2,000 \$3,000 then spending the majority of those funds on items consistent with personal use and losing the remaining funds on trading securities;
 - ii) Representing to M.O. that Respondents had purchased securities with her funds and providing a written statement showing the names of those securities and the value of her investment when in fact most of her funds had been lost or used on expenses consistent with personal use.
 - iii) Representing to M.O. that as of December 29, 2017, WCM had \$390,000 of total assets under management and that M.O.'s investment was worth \$58,125.21 when in fact Respondents did not manage assets of any clients other than M.O. and on December 29, 2017, WCM's Fidelity trading account had a value of \$0.22, WCM's bank account had a balance of \$150.90, and Wagner's personal trading account held only \$1,120 of call options in a single company (by the end of the day on December 29, 2017, Wagner had sold those options for a net loss of \$165.38).
- 52. Respondents' conduct is grounds to assess restitution, penalties, and take appropriate affirmative action pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-3201.

XI.

VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 44-3241

(Fraud in the Provision of Investment Advisory Services)

53. Respondents engaged in a transaction or transactions within or from Arizona involving the provision of investment advisory services in which Respondents, directly or indirectly: (i) employed a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud; (ii) made untrue statements of material fact or omitted to state material facts that were necessary in order to make the statements made not misleading in light of the

circumstances under which they were made; (iii) misrepresented professional qualifications with the intent that the client rely on the misrepresentation; or (iv) engaged in transactions, practices, or courses of business that operated or would operate as a fraud or deceit. Respondents' conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- a. Representing to M.O. that Respondents would invest her funds in securities to generate a monthly income of \$2,000 \$3,000 then spending the majority of those funds on items consistent with personal use and losing the remaining funds on trading securities;
- b. Representing to M.O. that Respondents had purchased securities with her funds and providing a written statement showing the names of those securities and the value of her investment when in fact most of her funds had been lost or used on expenses consistent with personal use.
- c. Representing to M.O. that as of December 29, 2017, WCM had \$390,000 of total assets under management and that M.O.'s investment was worth \$58,125.21 when in fact Respondents did not manage assets of any clients other than M.O. and on December 29, 2017, WCM's Fidelity trading account had a value of \$0.22, WCM's bank account had a balance of \$150.90, and Wagner's personal trading account held only \$1,120 of call options in a single company (by the end of the day on December 29, 2017, Wagner had sold those options for a net loss of \$165.38).
- 54. This conduct violates A.R.S. § 44-3241.

XII.

REQUESTED RELIEF

The Division requests that the Commission grant the following relief:

 Order Respondents to permanently cease and desist from violating the Securities Act and IM Act pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-2032, 44-1962, 44-3201 and 44-3292;

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- Order Respondents to take affirmative action to correct the conditions resulting from Respondents' acts, practices, or transactions, including a requirement to make restitution pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 44-2032, 44-1962, 44-3201 and 44-3292;
- Order Respondents to pay the state of Arizona administrative penalties of up to \$5,000
 for each violation of the Securities Act, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-2036;
- 4. Order Respondents to pay the state of Arizona administrative penalties of up to \$1,000 for each violation of the IM Act, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-3296;
- Order Respondents to pay the state of Arizona administrative penalties, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1962;
- 6. Order the revocation and denial of Respondent Wagner's registration and application as a securities salesman pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1962;
- Order the denial of Respondent Wagner's application as an investment adviser representative pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-3201;
- Order that the marital community of Wagner and Respondent Spouse be subject to any order of restitution, rescission, administrative penalties, or other appropriate affirmative action pursuant to A.R.S. § 25-215; and
 - 9. Order any other relief that the Commission deems appropriate.

XIII.

HEARING OPPORTUNITY

Each respondent including Respondent Spouse may request a hearing pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 44-1972, 44-3212 and A.A.C. R14-4-306. **If a respondent or Respondent Spouse requests a hearing, the requesting respondent must also answer this Notice.** A request for hearing must be in writing and received by the Commission within 10 business days after service of this Notice. The requesting respondent must deliver or mail the request to Docket Control, Arizona Corporation Commission, 1200 W. Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. Filing instructions may be obtained from Docket Control by calling (602) 542-3477 or at http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/hearings/docket.asp.

If a request for a hearing is timely made, the Commission shall schedule the hearing to begin 20 to 60 days from the receipt of the request unless otherwise provided by law, stipulated by the parties, or ordered by the Commission. If a request for a hearing is not timely made the Commission may, without a hearing, enter an order granting the relief requested by the Division in this Notice of Opportunity for Hearing.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, as well as request this document in an alternative format, by contacting Kacie Cannon, ADA Coordinator, voice phone number (602) 542-3931, e-mail kcannon@azcc.gov. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation. Additional information about the administrative action procedure may be found at http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/securities/enforcement/AdministrativeProcedure.asp

XIV.

ANSWER REQUIREMENT

Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-4-305, if a respondent or Respondent Spouse requests a hearing, the requesting respondent must deliver or mail an Answer to this Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Docket Control, Arizona Corporation Commission, 1200 W. Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, within 30 calendar days after the date of service of this Notice. Filing instructions may be obtained from Docket Control by calling (602) 542-3477 or on the Commission's website, http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/hearings/docket.asp.

Additionally, the answering respondent must serve the answer upon the Division. Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-4-303, service upon the Division may be made by mailing or by hand-delivering a copy of the answer to the Division at 1300 West Washington, 3rd Floor, Phoenix, Arizona, 85007, addressed to Ryan Millecam.

The answer shall contain an admission or denial of each allegation in this Notice and the original signature of the answering respondent or respondent's attorney. A statement of a lack of

sufficient knowledge or information shall be considered a denial of an allegation. An allegation not denied shall be considered admitted.

When the answering respondent intends in good faith to deny only a part or a qualification of an allegation, the respondent shall specify that part or qualification of the allegation and shall admit the remainder. The answering respondent waives any affirmative defense not raised in the answer.

The officer presiding over the hearing may grant relief from the requirement to file an answer for good cause shown.

Dated March 6, 2019.

Mark Dinell

Director of Securities